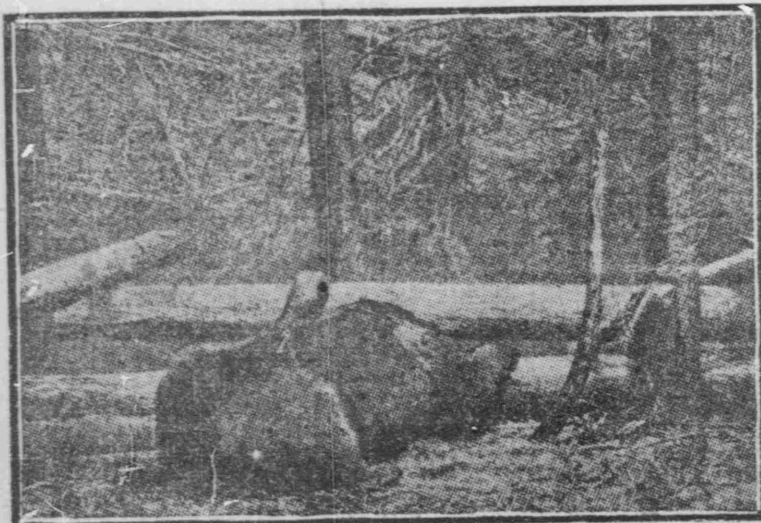


# NEW THINGS STRANGE & CURIOUS

## BEAR CAUGHT IN DEAD FALL.

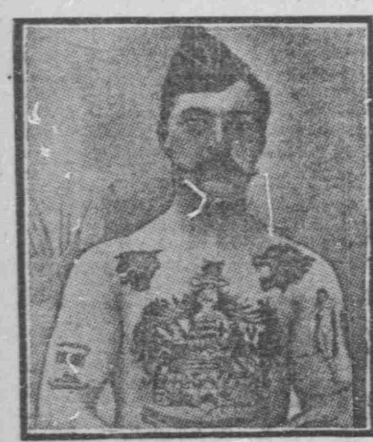


Here is an actual photograph of a bear successfully entrapped in a dead fall snare. The dead fall is an unusually heavy one, while the mechanism, as will be seen, had been arranged to work

to perfection. The tree which formed the upper part of the trap is first poled so that on the release of a light support it falls across the back of the neck of the bear.

## Tattoo Triumph.

In England enthusiasts claim that tattooing has at last attained the dignity of a fine art, and as proof that they are not talking wildly they point to the picture which accompanies this story. The artist in this instance had the broad chest of a British officer to



work upon, and in due time he produced an admirable and symmetrical painting, in many brilliant colors. Naturally his client did not blazon abroad his fine workmanship, and it remained a secret until his death, which took place recently in South Africa.

## Students' Novel Mission.

Three students of the University of Paris are about to take a journey round the world, the funds for that purpose having been presented to the university by M. A. Kahn. They are taking this journey not merely for their own pleasure, but for the purpose of studying foreign institutions and of writing an account of the countries which they intend to visit. This account of their travels will be delivered to the authorities of the Sorbonne on their return to France.

Each student is allowed \$5,000 for expenses, and the university intends to send two or three students on this novel mission every year. Only those students will be eligible who can speak at least one foreign language in addition to French. In order that their work of investigation may be facilitated the young tourists will take with them letters of introduction to the French representatives in foreign countries, and they are expected to complete their memorable journey within eighteen months.



## Odd Jack-o'-Lantern.

Very novel and amusing is the toy which is shown in the accompanying picture. A toy Jack-o'-Lantern it is and it is composed of a face and of a body, which is shaped like a lantern.

In this body there are openings which resemble the features of a face, and over the face itself there is a translucent covering, which conforms to the outlines of the face and on which are printed facial features differing in outline and expression from the features of the face. Moreover, within the lantern body is a movable slide, which is so arranged that when moved upward and downward it brings into play the various features of the face.

## MASAI WARRIOR.

In Africa there are many native warriors, but as the accompanying picture shows, few are as picturesque as those of the Masai tribe, which has for many generations made its home in British East Africa. To this tribe peculiar interest attaches just now, and for the reason that its members are scattered over that portion of the country which has been promised to the Zionist colony and which is known as "The Promised Land."

Though comparatively few in number, these Masai warriors are fearless and independent, and those who have studied them closely say that they are becoming more and more opposed to the British on account of the high-handed manner in which they are parceling out the country, which they rightly or wrongly regard as their own property. However, this may be, it is certain that these stalwart fighting men are well worthy of study, a fact of which ethnologists have recently become aware.



## Curious German Decree.

In Germany a severe blow has just been dealt to hypnotists, magnetic healers and other so-called occultists. A law has been passed prohibiting such persons from holding public seances and heavy fines are prescribed as penalties in cases of disobedience. The reason why such a measure has been passed is curious. "Seances given by magnetic healers and others," says the law, "are likely to arouse public prejudice against the persons who are used as mediums on such occasions, and therefore it is ordained that no meeting of this kind shall be held in future." Moreover, the magistrates throughout Germany have received strict instructions to prosecute with the utmost vigor any persons who publicly practice hypnotism, magnetic healing, or any other of the so-called occult arts.

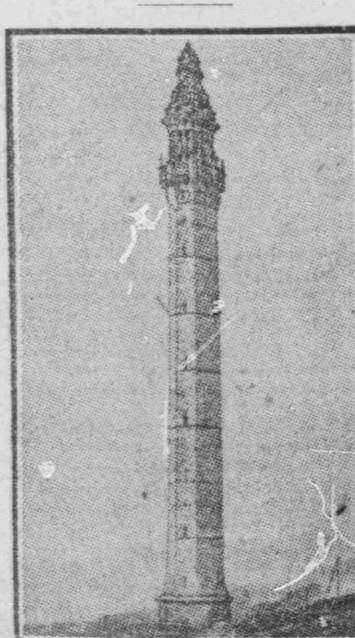
## Historical Chair.

One of the chairs used by Bonnie Prince Charlie while in hiding in Scotland is still preserved in Glasgow. The curious piece of furniture belonged to a highland peasant who lived near the cave where the Prince was in hiding. Relying on the loyalty of the Scotch



farmer, the prince spent considerable time in the little cottage. A special chair was set apart for him, and this has since been handed down from generation to generation through the family who originally entertained the distinguished fugitive.

## "Spite" Tower.



Everyone is familiar with various spite fences or houses, but it is safe to say that quite the most costly and elaborate enterprise of this kind in the world is the famous Wainhouse Tower, in Yorkshire, England. Its builder, John Edward Wainhouse, was the owner of dye works in that valley. Next to his estate lay that of an English lord. The two quarreled and Wainhouse built the tower so that he could always overlook his neighbor's grounds, although they lay much higher than his own. The tower is nearly three hundred feet high and cost \$5,000 to build.

A curious effect is noted in the Andes. There is an inn half way up the direct route where ascenders and descenders frequently meet, the former half perished with increasing cold, the latter overwhelmed by increasing heat.

## Invention of Billiards.

Billiards is comparatively a modern game. According to some letters discovered in the British Museum, the game was invented by London pawnbroker named William Kew. One day, to amuse himself, he took the three round balls which were the emblems of his trade, and placing them on his counter, began to hit them about with the yard measure.

He became quite interested in his new game and soon gained great skill in making one ball glance off the other. He invited his friends to join him in the game, which they named "Bill's yard," and which was soon shortened into billiards.

But the instrument used to knock the balls about was a yard measure, and so to get out of the difficulty they called it after the name of the pawnbroker the Kew, which in course of time became cue.

## Vulture's Eggs.

A vulture's egg is exceedingly rare, from the scarcity of the birds and the peculiarly inaccessible position of their nests. An intrepid English hunter recently succeeded not only in finding such a nest, but in photographing it, with its contents. The nest, as is the habit with



vultures, had been built at the top of the highest tree in the vicinity, at an altitude of more than 15,000 feet above the ground. The work of climbing so far and carrying a camera along was accomplished without mishap.

## GIVING HIMSELF A LIGHT.



The picture in question depicts the well-known maxim of "Whatever you have to do, do it yourself." Let us not rely upon others, but have confidence in our own efforts.

The idea of the man lighting his own cigar is only a poor and imperfect representation of this thought. Many men there are who depend upon others to do

their work and, in most cases, do their thinking, but when it comes to a test where are such men found? They are found on the losing side. On the other hand, look at the successful men in the commercial world and ask them how they attained that end. They will make answer that they have accomplished success through their own untiring efforts and undaunted zeal.

## Great Echoes.

The suspension bridge across the Menai Straits, in Wales, produces one of the most remarkable echoes in the world. The sound of a blow with a hammer on one of the main piers is returned in succession from each of the crossbeams which support the roadway, and from the opposite pier at the distance of 575 feet, in addition to which the sound is many times repeated between the water and roadway at the rate of twenty-eight in five seconds.

An equally remarkable echo is that of the Castle of Simonetta, a nobleman's seat, about two miles from Milan. The report of a pistol is repeated by this echo sixty times. A singular echo is also heard in a rotto near Castle Comber, in Ireland. In the garden of the Tulleries, in Paris, is an artificial echo which repeats a whole verse without the loss of a single syllable.

Another wonderful echo is heard outside the Shipley Church, in Sussex, which echoes some twenty syllables in the most perfect manner.

The well-known echo at Woodstock repeats itself no fewer than fifty times. In one part of the Pantheon so great is the echo that the striking together of the palms of the hands is said to make a report equal to that of a twelve-pound cannon.

## New Kind of Catarrh.

Physicians in London have discovered a new disease, which they call "the dancer's catarrh." According to them it only attacks professional dancers, and especially those who are members of a ballet. After executing a few steps the dancer, they say, feels a sharp pain in the nose, and this is the first symptom of the malady. Soon afterward the nostrils become inflamed and the disease assumes a form very similar to that of influenza. The physicians are trying hard to discover a remedy for the disease, and are confident that in time they will succeed. Meanwhile several persons in London are suffering so much from "dancer's catarrh" that they have been obliged to cancel their engagements.

## Unexplored Regions.

A century ago three-fifths of the entire surface of the globe was unexplored. While this area has been greatly reduced in a hundred years, the extent of the regions still unexplored will doubtless be a surprise to most people.



On the map of the Western Hemisphere presented herewith the unexplored sections are indicated by black shading. On the Eastern Hemisphere, again, there is an almost equally large area unexplored. Many of these regions are likely to hold their secrets for many years.

## Town of Dollmakers.

The picturesque town of Montreuil, in France, is almost entirely given up to the manufacture of dolls. Nearly every inhabitant is engaged in the work, so that the town has the appearance of an immense toy shop. First, "the biscuit," from which the heads of the dolls are made, is compounded of lime and earth, which is mixed and posed till it attains the desired consistency. It is then steeped and strained, washed and filtered over and over again, till it finally emerges from these processes white and pure.

This mixture is then poured into molds, of which the variety is almost endless, and when dry the embryo heads are handed over to women who insert the eyes and attach the ears. They are then baked for two days in large ovens capable of holding nearly 30,000 heads. The heads are now polished with sandpaper and tinted, after which the artists take them in hand and color them, painting eyebrows, eyelashes, and lips. The colors are finally fixed by another process of baking before the heads are ready to be affixed to the bodies, to be a delight and solace to children all over the world.

## HALF DOG, HALF GOAT.

One of the most beautiful hybrid crosses of the animal kingdom ever seen is owned by Hosh Mills, of Hartford City, Ind. The animal is a cross of dog and goat. The mother is an Irish setter. The animal resembles a dog in many ways, but it has a coat of as fine, silky texture as any Angora in the United States.

The animal is a great curiosity, and people come many miles to see it. Prominent stockmen claim it to be the first hybrid cross of this nature on record, and they are watching the general results of the cross with much interest.



## Coal or Eucalyptus.

In warm countries where there is no coal the wood of the eucalyptus forms an excellent substitute, according to M. Hutchins, an African traveler. The eucalyptus, he points out, grows in great abundance in tropical regions, and recent experiments have shown that a practically inexhaustible supply of coal can be obtained from it. Plenty of sunshine and rain are all that it needs in order to insure a constant growth, and these favorable conditions prevail over a considerable portion of the earth's surface. Consequently M. Hutchins maintains that if a little attention were given to the cultivation of the eucalyptus all the coal mines in the world could very soon be closed.

Some scientists do not agree with him. They admit that the eucalyptus grows abundantly in tropical countries, but they doubt if it would thrive in temperate regions, where coal is so much used, and in case of failure they claim that it would be less expensive to extract coal from mines than to import the eucalyptus coal from distant countries.

## Primitive Firemaker.

Everybody has heard of making fire by rubbing two sticks together, but few have any notion as to how it is accomplished. There are various methods practiced by savages in different parts of the world, and one of them is shown in the accompanying picture. The man, a California Indian, is twirling a stick rapidly between the palms of his hands. By and by the friction of the end of the stick will ignite the particles ground off from another piece of wood, which lies flat on the ground. Some tinder will convert the glow into a flame, and soon there will be a fire.



## Largest Typewriter.

An English typewriter company once made a special machine for Li Hung Chang. It was necessary to construct a machine much more elaborate than the ordinary instrument, owing to the strange characters of the Chinese tongue, and this typewriter was fitted with eighteen hundred characters, each of which had to be engraved by hand. Naturally, this wonderful instrument created a great impression on being introduced at Peking, and it evidently suggested to the speculative mind of the Chinese the idea of forming a company for the sale of Chinese typewriters. One bold individual went to London with the project. He asserted that it would be possible to write a kind of Chinese shorthand with as few as 250 characters (about three times the number used on the ordinary machine), but the instrument would be about three times the usual size, and the price was to be \$5,000. In spite of the Chinaman's conviction that there would be a ready sale in the Celestial Empire, neither the typewriter firm nor the British capitalists cared to have anything to do with so risky a venture. Li Hung Chang's machine is still probably the only machine which writes Chinese characters.

## Bokhara Melons.

To the observant traveler in the Orient few sights afford more interest than the bazaars of the melon sellers in Bokhara, capital of Bokhara, or Bukhara—spell it to suit yourself—a



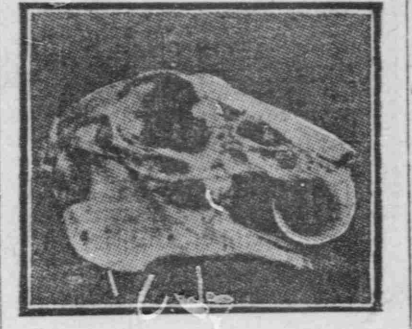
Khannate of Central Asia under Russian influence. Very careful, indeed, of his wares is the melon merchant of the East. The fruit, as will be seen in the picture, is carefully suspended in cords, and the beauty of each melon is jealously dilated upon by the merchant whenever the eye of a potential customer rests upon it.

## Reprehensible Guinea Pig.

At the recent meeting of a Parisian temperance society three guinea pigs were inoculated with various forms of alcohol, and one with nice, pure water, and then put away till the end of the meeting, when the lecturer brought them out again triumphantly to show the shocking results of alcohol. Most unfortunately, however, the only ill guinea pig was the teetotal one and the moral was simply shocking.—Liverpool Post.

## Rabbit With Tusks.

Looks very much like the skull of an animal that existed way back in the times when sportsmen lived in caves and went hunting with potential cobblerstones and made love by grabbing the



lady of their choice, by the back hair and banging her over the head with a club. But it is nothing of the sort. This is the skull of a rabbit, with tusks like teeth, which was recently trapped by a gamekeeper. The tusks curved outward and gave the animal a most singular appearance. Such cases are extremely rare.